

## CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

**Title of publication:** Go The Fuck To Sleep

**Other known title(s):** Go The F\*\*k To Sleep

**OFLC ref:** 1100691.000

**Medium:** Book

**Author:** Adam Mansbach

**Publisher:** Akashic Books

**Country of origin:** United States

**Language:** English

**Applicant:** Family First NZ

<b>Classification:</b> Unrestricted.
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**Descriptive note:** None

**Display conditions:** None

**Date of entry in Register:** 08 August 2011

**Date of direction to issue a label:** No direction to issue a label has been issued

### Summary of reasons for decision:

'Go The Fuck To Sleep' is a book from the USA, written in nursery rhyme style and accompanied by attractive illustrations. It was submitted for classification by Family First NZ under s13(1)(c) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 (FVPC Act).

The book is a beautifully produced fable telling of a father's growing exasperation with his small child's behaviours at bedtime. The book combines children's imagery with poetic text that uses highly offensive language. It has been written for adults and is intended for them. While the book is likely to have great appeal to small children, the highly offensive language is unsuitable for them. Section 3A of the FVPC Act makes it very clear though, that to warrant a restricted classification, the language must pose a likelihood of "serious harm" to children. In this case, the Classification Office is satisfied that the usual protections that are taken by responsible adults around such material are considered enough to prevent serious harm to children.

Considering the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990, the classification of this publication does not interfere with the freedom of expression in any way.